

Dear Traffic Educator,

WWW.DONATELIFETODAY.COM

April is Organ Donor Awareness Month and, as your Attorney General and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, we would like to ask for your help. In partnership with the Governor's Office of Community Service and Donate Life Today, we are asking Montana citizens to engage in service with other Montanans by registering as a donor.

First and foremost, we want to thank you for your time and dedication in teaching our youth to be safe, responsible and competent drivers. This is a tremendous responsibility and we applaud your efforts. We are also proud to say that Montana ranks among the top in the country for registered donors. The gift of life, made possible through organ, eye and tissue donation, is precious and often the result of someone choosing to register.

As you are probably aware, state law (MCA 61-5-301(2)) mandates that when young people apply for their first driver's license, they must be verbally asked if they want to register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor. Unfortunately, some students arrive at DMV stations without an understanding of what the registry is or without having considered what that decision means. That is why we are reaching out to you.

We know that class time is limited and primarily focuses on the important skills all new drivers need to learn. These skills are crucial, yet so too is the ability to make an educated decision on whether or not to be included on the registry. To assist in your efforts, we would like to draw your attention to an online education program provided by Donate Life Today. This program offers excellent resources for teachers to help prepare students and their parents in answering questions about donation, understanding the registry, and what it means to become a donor.

We encourage you to visit Donate Life Today at <a href="www.donatelifetoday.com/highschool">www.donatelifetoday.com/highschool</a> where you will find lesson plan ideas, videos, worksheets and many other helpful resources. You can also request a copy of the online video by emailing a request to <a href="mailto:arleneb@lcnw.org">arleneb@lcnw.org</a>.

Please consider incorporating these resources into your class if you have not already done so. As your students get ready to become young drivers, we ask that you provide them with the tools they will need to answer all the questions they will be asked at their exam. *The choice of just one student to become a donor could make a difference to the lives of more than 50 people.* 

We hope you find the time to share these valuable resources with your students and remind others that April is Organ Donor Awareness Month.

Sincerely,

Steve Bullock Attorney General Denise Juneau

Superintendent of Public Instruction

